

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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c15
1. A method for creating a compilation from a collection of content stored in a database, comprising the steps of:
presenting a plurality of selectable objects to a user, each object associated with a subset of the collection of content,
in response to selection by a user of one or more of said objects, creating a compilation of
10 the content associated with each selected object.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the collection of content comprises at least one of a book, a document, an image, a collection of musical selections, and a video.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2, wherein subsets of content comprises one of a chapter and a section of a text document.
- 20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein each selectable object is associated with a cost, and further comprising the step of calculating a cost for the created compilation based upon the costs of the selected objects.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of determining a content count for the compilation and determining a cost for the compilation based upon the content count.
- 25 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the collection of content comprises hierarchically related data.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.
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8. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects in a predetermined order such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

5 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating a compilation further comprises the steps of:

defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;

creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

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10. The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

15 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving content input by a user, and

creating a selectable object from the content.

20 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of compilations.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step, after creation of the compilation, of presenting the compilation to a user for modification.

25 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of creating a copy of the compilation, applying changes input by a user to the copy, and creating a new compilation therefrom.

30 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the user may select an object for removal from the compilation.

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23. The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting step further comprises the steps of:
receiving search criteria input by the user,
determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria,
and

5 presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of
content satisfying the search criteria.

24. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the subsets of content is associated with
one or more prerequisite subsets of content, further comprising the step, upon selection by the
10 user of a selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also including the associated
prerequisite subsets of content in the created compilation.

25. The method of claim 1, wherein a selectable object further comprises one of a container
and a content entity.

15 26. The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of, in response to selection of the
container to add to a compilation, adding the selected container and any containers or content
entities it contains to the compilation.

20 27. The method of claim 1, wherein the selectable objects further comprise titles of their
associated subsets of content.

28. The method of claim 25, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a
chapter.

25 29. The method of claim 25, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one
of books, images, albums and videos.

~~30. A method for creating a compilation from a plurality of content objects stored in a data repository, each content object comprising a plurality of hierarchically related content entities, comprising the steps of:~~

5 In response to selection of ones of the hierarchically related elements to include in a
compilation, creating a compilation from the selected content entities.

31. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for creating a compilation from a collection of content stored in a database, comprising the steps of:

presenting a plurality of selectable objects to a user, each object associated with a subset of the collection of content;

in response to selection by a user of one or more of said objects, creating a compilation of the content associated with each selected object.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the collection of content comprises at least one of a book, a document, an image, a collection of musical selections, and a video.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein subsets of content comprises one of a chapter and a section of a book or document.

34. The method of claim 31, wherein each selectable object is associated with a cost, and further comprising the step of calculating a cost for the created compilation based upon the costs of the selected objects.

35. The method of claim 31, further comprising the steps of determining a content count for the compilation and determining a cost for the compilation based upon the content count.

36. The method of claim 31, wherein the collection of content comprises hierarchically related data.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

38. The method of claim 31, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects in a predetermined order such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

39. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of creating a compilation further comprises the steps of:

defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;

creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

40. The method of claim 39, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

41. The method of claim 31, further comprising the steps of:

receiving content input by a user, and

creating a selectable object from the content.

42. The method of claim 31, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of compilations.

43. The method of claim 31, further comprising the step, after creation of the compilation, of presenting the compilation to a user for modification.

44. The method of claim 43, further comprising the step of creating a copy of the compilation, applying changes input by a user to the copy, and creating a new compilation therefrom.

5 45. The method of claim 43, wherein the user may select an object for removal from the compilation.

46. The method of claim 31, wherein the user may select to clear the compilation.

10 47. The method of claim 31, wherein the user may select to undo an operation affecting the compilation.

48. The method of claim 31, further comprising the step, after creation of the compilation, of submitting the compilation to an approval process.

15 49. The method of claim 48, wherein the approval process further comprises one of approving the compilation for publication, rejecting the compilation, and receiving editorial comments as input from a second user, and providing the compilation and editorial comments to the creating user.

20 50. The method of claim 31, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

25 51. The method of claim 31, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

52. The method of claim 51 further comprising the step of partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and presenting all content objects belonging to a category to a user.

5 53. The method of claim 31, wherein the presenting step further comprises the steps of:
receiving search criteria input by the user,
determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria,
and
presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of
10 content satisfying the search criteria.

54. The method of claim 31, wherein at least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content, further comprising the step, upon selection by the user of a selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also including the associated prerequisite subsets of content in the created compilation.
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55. The method of claim 31, wherein a selectable object further comprises one of a container and a content entity.

20 56. The method of claim 55, further comprising the step of, in response to selection of the container to add to a compilation, adding the selected container and any containers or content entities it contains to the compilation.

25 57. The method of claim 31, wherein the selectable objects further comprise titles of the associated subsets of content.

58. The method of claim 55, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

30 59. The method of claim 55, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

67. The system of claim 66, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

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68. The system of claim 61, further comprising means for displaying to the user the selected objects in a predetermined order such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

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69. The system of claim 61, wherein the means for creating a compilation further comprises:
Means for defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;
Means for creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

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70. The system of claim 69, further comprising means for displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

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71. The system of claim 61, further comprising:
Means for receiving content input by a user, and
Means for creating a selectable object from the content.

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72. The system of claim 61, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of compilations.

73. The system of claim 61, the user interface further comprising means for presenting the created compilation to a user for modification.

74. The system of claim 73, further comprising means for creating a copy of the compilation, means for applying changes input by a user to the copy, and means for creating a new compilation therefrom.

5 75. The system of claim 73, further comprising means for selecting an object for removal from the compilation.

76. The system of claim 61, further comprising means for clearing the compilation.

10 77. The system of claim 61, further comprising means for undoing an operation affecting the compilation.

78. The system of claim 61, further comprising means for submitting the compilation to an approval process.

15 79. The system of claim 78, wherein the approval process further comprises means for approving the compilation for publication, means for rejecting the compilation, means for receiving editorial comments as input from a second user, and means for providing the compilation and editorial comments to the creating user.

20 80. The system of claim 61, further comprising means for presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

25 81. The system of claim 61, further comprising means for presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

82. The system of claim 81 further comprising means for partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and means for presenting all content objects belonging to a category to a user.

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83. The system of claim 61, further comprising:

Means for receiving search criteria input by the user,

Means for determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria, and

5 Means for presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of content satisfying the search criteria.

84. The system of claim 61, wherein at least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content, further comprising means for determining if a
10 selected object has associated prerequisite material, and means for adding the subset of content associated with the selected object and its prerequisite subsets to the created compilation.

85. The system of claim 61, wherein a selectable object further comprises one of a container and a content entity.

86. The system of claim 85, further comprising means for enabling a user to select a container to add to the compilation, and means for adding the selected container and any containers or content entities it contains to the compilation.

20 87. The system of claim 61, wherein the selectable objects further comprise titles of the associated subsets of content.

88. The system of claim 85, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

25 89. The system of claim 85, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

90. A system for creating a compilation from a plurality of content objects stored in a data repository, each content object comprising a plurality of hierarchically related content entities, comprising:

Means for enabling a user to select of ones of the hierarchically related elements to
5 include in a compilation, and

Means for ~~creating~~ a compilation from the selected content entities.